

group of Iraqi soldiers approached the Marines under a flag of surrender and proceeded to open fire. It is tragic that Corporal Fribley died. It is outrageous that he was murdered under a white flag.

David grew up in Kosciusko County. There he attended Warsaw Community High School, where he lettered 4 years in football and track and field. A former teacher said of David that he could not think of anyone who worked harder, both on the field and the classroom.

David continued his track career at Indiana State University. After graduating from college in 2001, David moved to Fort Myers, Florida. The tragic events of September 11, 2001, his father said, played a major role in motivating David to join the Marine Corps.

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Lance Corporal David Fribley is survived by his parents, Gary and Linda Fribley, who remain residents of Kosciusko County. I ask that my colleagues join me and my fellow residents of the Third District in offering our most sincere condolences to the Fribley family and all who loved David.

#### DENIAL OF WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP TO TAIWAN IS UNJUSTIFIED

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, in mid-February the World Health Organization began reporting cases of an atypical pneumonia throughout Asia identified as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome. Since then, more than 450 cases, with 17 deaths, have been reported in 13 countries.

As members of the World Health Organization, most of these countries have received assistance in confronting this pandemic, but Taiwan, not a member, has not received any assistance from WHO.

The WHO's refusal to assist Taiwan is unfair not only for the people of Taiwan but for the world at large, given the transnational nature of this outbreak. With a population of 23 million people, Taiwan is larger than 75 percent of the countries that belong to WHO and is prepared to contribute meaningfully to the global health efforts discussed at the World Health Assembly, but without membership or observer status, its delegates cannot even enter the room.

Taiwan has eradicated smallpox and cholera and polio and has achieved infant mortality rates on par with western countries.

Earlier this year, this House passed a bill ordering the State Department to endorse observer status for Taiwan at the World Health Assembly, yet the Bush administration continues to say no. The denial of WHO membership to Taiwan is an unjustifiable violation of its people's basic right to good health.

#### SUPPORT H. RES. 153, DESIGNATING A NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING FOR OUR TROOPS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we live in extraordinary times. Never in history has the public been able to experience a war so vividly, watching battles unfold on their television screens as the heroes of our military secure freedom and liberty for the people of Iraq and rid the world of the threat of Saddam Hussein and his weapons of mass destruction.

As these battlefield images can fill us with anxiety, it is now more important than ever to take time to pray for God's protection over our valiant soldiers and that he would grant wisdom, guidance, and strength to our Commander in Chief, President George W. Bush, and his team.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the proposal of the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN), House Resolution 153, to designate a national day of prayer and fasting. As it is written in the book of Psalms: "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

May God bless our troops and may God continue to bless America.

#### TRIBUTE TO WORKERS AT MCALESTER AMMUNITION DEPOT

(Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize almost 1,200 constituents of mine whose job is unknown to most Americans. They go to work every day at a 45,000 acre compound the size of the District of Columbia with a sense of pride and patriotism as they do their part to help this country defend our freedoms and fight the war on terrorism.

Ever since October, 1943, the McAlester Ammunition Depot has led our country in the production of ammunition. Through World War II, the depot employed 8,000 people and produced 325,000 tons of ammunition. During the Korean and Vietnam Wars, the depot employed more than 3,000 workers. Today, this state-of-the-art maintenance and renovation facility for the weaponry of the United States Armed Forces continues to build vital ammo to defend and protect our great country.

These workers, most all of them civilians, come to work every single day with a very deep understanding about the purpose of their job. As one worker who has passed through those guarded gates for the last 14 years stated, "I have always felt a lot of pride having a job here. But now, when I come through that front gate, I just feel so good knowing that what we do supports

the people who are out there really taking care of this country."

Mr. Speaker, I will close by saying that I am proud and honored that I can call these 1,200 workers my constituents; and at a time when our Nation is at war, let us not forget those men and women in and out of uniform who dedicate their lives so that we can all live in peace and freedom.

#### LIBERATION FOR IRAQ COMING SOON

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, many have questioned whether or not a war with Iraq is just and if the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein is a threat to the world. Well, certainly the events of the last few days have shown just how brutal and how uncaring of human life Saddam and his gang of thugs actually are.

The Geneva Convention requires that prisoners of war be treated with dignity and protected at all times from torture and public humiliation. Just as Saddam has not followed the mandates imposed upon his regime by the ceasefire agreement of 1991 and the United Nations Security Council resolutions, he has now disregarded the Geneva Convention.

The need for our intervention in Iraq is now clearer than ever. If Saddam would so brutally violate international protocol with regard to prisoners of war, just think how badly he has repressed his own people.

This dictator, like countless others before him, will earn his fate.

Now there are reports of a popular uprising of the Iraqi people in Basra against Saddam's tyrannical regime.

I say to the people of Iraq, rise up and join our coalition fighting to secure your freedom. Rise up and embrace your liberation.

Liberation Day is coming soon to the Iraqi people.

#### TOWN HALL MEETING ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, March 28, at 1 o'clock, I shall join the Chicago Urban League, several Chicago land chapters of the NAACP, the National Association of Health Service Executives, the National Alliance of Black School Educators, and others in a town hall meeting to address the need for the continuation of affirmative action as a way of helping to level the playing field for all races and gender groups in employment, education, and upward mobility.

There has been tremendous progress in these areas, but not nearly enough. Therefore, we must continue to move

America towards becoming a land of equal opportunity, which affords to every man and every woman his or her chance, their golden opportunity to become whatever their manhood, womanhood, talents, and ambitions combine to make them.

That is indeed the promise of America.

#### NOMINEE HELD HOSTAGE

(Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, we live in difficult times, as we all know. Yet, in the other body, the nomination of a brilliant young lawyer, Miguel Estrada, is being held hostage. Today is the fiftieth day of that tragic event, the fiftieth day of holding a man hostage using innuendoes and double standards and fake accusations and, again, double standards. A person who got here at 17, who worked, studied, became a brilliant jurist, worked under 2 presidents, one Democrat and one Republican, who deserves to be on the court, on the bench of this country.

Again, I repeat, he is being held hostage, is being held to a higher standard, a different standard than every other judge that has gone through that illustrious body.

Mr. Speaker, it is a sad day to know that, again, with all of the difficult times and all of the difficult things going on, this one man is not being allowed to have a vote on the other floor.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OTTER). The Chair would remind the Members of the House that they should avoid comments which urge action in the other body.

#### FCC SHOULD CORRECT BAD DECISION

(Mr. WHITFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to comment briefly on the flawed regulatory decision recently announced by the Federal Communications Commission. The FCC's approach can be deemed as borrowed from what the railroad industry refers to as trackage rights; that is, using another company's property.

Under the FCC rules, competitors are able to pay a bare minimum to use the incumbent phone company's networks. The prices are set using a complicated formula devised by the FCC and administered by State commissions. It is Federal price controls at their worst.

This approach has two negative effects. First, it discourages investment

in the U.S. network by incumbent phone companies. Why would you invest if someone else is going to be able to use your property? Second, by deliberately underpricing network access, the FCC has discouraged investment in other networks by other firms. It hurts facilities-based competitors who cannot hope to match the FCC-mandated artificially low rates. Even Wall Street has expressed their dismay at this decision.

Mr. Speaker, this country should be encouraging investment, not discouraging it. We should be creating jobs, not discouraging it. I hope that the FCC will correct this bad decision as soon as possible.

#### COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI'S CENTER FOR ECOSYSTEM AND SCIENCE POLICY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the University of Miami for launching its Center for Ecosystem and Science Policy.

This new center, led by its Director, Professor Mary Doyle, will work to ensure that sound environmental decisions are made based on the best scientific knowledge and understanding available. It will combine expertise in government and the environmental sciences in order to positively impact policy creation.

The Center for Ecosystem and Science Policy emphasizes the University of Miami's stance as a first-rate educational institution.

So I highly commend the President of the University of Miami, Donna Shalala, and the Center's Director, Mary Doyle, for taking leadership roles in the field of environmental research and policy.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are requested or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later today.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SOCIAL PROBLEM OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEM

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 113) recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of the problem, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 113

Whereas approximately 3,000,000 reports of suspected or known child abuse and neglect involving 5,000,000 American children are made to child protective service agencies each year;

Whereas 556,000 American children are unable to live safely with their families and are placed in foster homes and institutions;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 1,200 children, 85 percent of whom are under the age of 6 years and 44 percent of whom are under the age of 1 year, lose their lives as a direct result of abuse and neglect every year in the United States;

Whereas this tragic social problem results in human and economic costs due to its relationship to crime and delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, and welfare dependency; and

Whereas Childhelp USA has initiated a "Day of Hope" to be observed on Wednesday, April 2, 2003, during Child Abuse Prevention Month, to focus public awareness on this social ill: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That—

(1) it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(A) all Americans should keep the victims of child abuse and neglect in their thoughts and prayers;

(B) all Americans should seek to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect and to give these victimized children hope for the future; and

(C) the faith community, nonprofit organizations, and volunteers across the United States should recommit themselves and mobilize their resources to assist these abused and neglected children; and

(2) the House of Representatives—

(A) supports the goals and ideals of the "Day of Hope", which was initiated by Childhelp USA; and

(B) commends Childhelp USA for all of its efforts on behalf of abused and neglected children throughout the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 113.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nevada?

There was no objection.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 113 offered by my colleague, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH).

House Resolution 113 recognizes the social problem of child abuse and neglect and supports efforts to enhance public awareness of child maltreatment. The resolution is timely and appropriate, as next week begins National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Every year, approximately 3 million reports of possible child abuse and neglect are made to child protective services. According to the most recent report, it is estimated that 63 percent of